UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/492
10 June 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 JUNE 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have been instructed by my Government to bring the following issue to the attention of the Security Council through you.

We have, through you as President, and your predecessor, kept the Security Council informed of the dangerous course that the Ethiopian Government has taken by declaring all-out war against Eritrea and creating a grave threat to international security. In violation of international laws and conventions, the Ethiopian Government has publicly threatened to wage indiscriminate air strikes on all planes entering Eritrean airspace, as well as on ships calling on Eritrean ports. This irresponsible act is not only intended to cut off commercial air and sea traffic to Eritrea, but is also a direct threat to the freedom and safety of international commercial traffic. It is a direct affront to and violation of the Charter and conventions of the United Nations.

The Security Council has the responsibility to respond in the strongest terms to this flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, this dangerous threat to international safety and security. We call upon the Council to condemn and do everything in its power to stop it in time. The Security Council cannot but bear full responsibility for the consequences of this act of international terrorism should it fail to do so.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate this message as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-16373 (E) 100698